

Message Text

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DODE-00 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:RBARRY:VPB
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
S/PRS:MR. PERENYI
EUR/P:MR. SEIDNER

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P 252256Z MAY 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 128953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, UR, US

SUBJECT: EXCERPT FROM NOON BRIEFING: SALT COMPLIANCES

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY AND NOT REPEAT NOT FOR USE
WITH LOCAL PRESS CORPS IS EXCEPT FROM MAY 25 NOON BRIEFING.

Q. WHAT DO YOU HAVE ON THE REPORTED SOVIET VIOLATION OF
THE SALT II AGREEMENT?

A. YOU ARE REFERRING, I BELIEVE, TO THE AVIATION WEEK
STORY AND TO THE GWERTZMAN STORY OF TODAY, IS THAT CORRECT?

Q. YES.

A. I AM NOT GOING TO GO DOWN LINE BY LINE ON BERNIE'S
STORY, WHICH I AM TOLD IS BY AND LARGE ACCURATE.

Q. BY AND LARGE ACCURATE?

HAVE IN FACT BEGUN DISMANTLING THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF
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OLDER ICBM'S. HOWEVER, THEY DID NOT COMPLETE THIS PROCESS

WITHIN THE FOUR MONTHS AS REQUIRED BY PROCEDURES AGREED TO IN THE SCC.

NOW, WHEN THIS BECAME APPARENT LAST WINTER, THE PRESIDENT ORDERED A REVIEW OF THE MATTER PRIOR TO THE CONVENING OF THE REGULAR SCC MEETING IN GENEVA.

Q. BECAME KNOWN LAST WINTER?

A. YES.

Q. CAN YOU BE MORE PRECISE?

A. I CANNOT BE MORE PRECISE.

Q. THE PRESIDENT DID WHAT?

A. HE BECAME AWARE OF THIS, AND HE ORDERED A COMPLETE REVIEW OF THE MATTER PRIOR TO THE CONVENING OF THE REGULAR SCC MEETING IN GENEVA.

Q. WHAT IS THE SCC?

A. PETER, WHAT IS THE PRECISE -- STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

MR. PERENYI: THAT IS CORRECT.

MR. BROWN: NOW, HE INSTRUCTED OUR DELEGATION TO RAISE THE MATTER AND MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE CONSIDERED THE SOVIETS TO HAVE FAILED TO MEET THE AGREED SCHEDULE. WE CONSIDER IT A SERIOUS ISSUE.

A. AND MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE CONSIDERED THE SOIVET FAILURE TO MEET THE AGREED SCHEDULE A SERIOUS ISSUE.

HOWEVER, THE SOVIETS OFFICIALLY INFORMED US PRIOR TO OUR RAISING THE ISSUE THAT THEY HAD NOT MET THE SCHEDULE AND GAVE US DETAILED INFORMATION CONFIRMING OUR INTELLIGENCE.

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AT THE PRESIDENT'S DIRECTION, OUR DELEGATION STATED THAT BECAUSE OF THE DELAYS WE EXPECTED NO NEW SUBMARINES -- THAT MEANS SOVIET SUBMARINES -- TO BEGIN SEA TRIALS UNTIL THE DISMANTLING HAD BEEN FULLY COMPLETED AND UNTIL THEY WERE IN FULL COMPLIANCE. THE SOVIETS ACCEPTED THIS.

NOW, OUR RECENT INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT THE SOVIETS ARE MOVING RAPIDLY TO COMPLETE THE DISMANTLING PROCESS.

A. AND THAT THE REQUISITE NUMBER OF LAUNCHERS -- WHICH
HAPPENS TO BE 51 -- WILL BE COMPLETELY DISMANTLED SOON.
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